Before the Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of)	
Applications of Sprint Nextel Corporation Transferor)	
SoftBank Corp., and Starburst II, Inc., Transferees)	IB Docket No. 12-343
Joint Applications for Consent to Transfer of)	
Control of Licenses, Leases, and)	
Authorizations; and Petition for Declaratory)	
Ruling under Section 310(b)(4) of the)	
Communications Act of 1934, as amended)	

SUPPORTING COMMENTS OF EBS LICENSEES

Filing jointly, we five EBS licensees ("EBS Licensees")¹ hereby submit this pleading in support of the Comments in the above-captioned proceeding recently filed by Hispanic Information Network, Inc. ("HITN") and North American Educational Programming Foundation, Inc. ("NACEPF")

Though recent press reports indicate that the Commission is in the advanced stages of its consideration of this matter, the EBS Companies wish to go on record as agreeing that the effect of the proposed transfers of control upon education is a significant public interest issue. Like

WLX-694, Las Vegas; and WLX-816, Phoenix. PRETC is licensee of WHR-522, Portland, OR. TCSTG is licensee of WHR-487, Minneapolis.

¹ The EBS licensees that are jointly submitting this pleading are are: Chicago Instructional Technology Foundation ("CITF"), Denver Area Educational Telecommunications Consortium ("DAETC"), Instructional Telecommunications Foundation ("ITF"), Portland Regional Educational Telecommunications Corporation ("PRETC"), and Twin Cities Schools' Telecommunications Group ("TCSTG"). These five organizations each recently has taken on the trade name Voqal, though this step did not affect their ownership or management. CITF is licensee of WLX-630, Chicago. DAETC is licensee of WHR-488, Denver. ITF is licensee of WHR-509, Indianapolis; WHR-527, Philadelphia; WHR-512, Sacramento; WHR-511, Kansas City; WLX-699, Salt Lake City;

HITN and NACEPF, the EBS Licensees have entered into long term *de facto* transfer leases with Clearwire, and Clearwire's impressive efforts to bring 4G wireless broadband to the United States have greatly increased our ability to provide services to the public.² According to Clearwire's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, the majority of its spectrum holdings (as measured by MHz/POPs) are leased from Educational Broadband Service licensees.

Like HITN, NACEPF, and hundreds of other Educational Broadband Service licensees, we will be strongly affected by Clearwire's future and the network it operates. We hope that the proposed concatenation of SoftBank's gaining control over Sprint and Sprint's taking full ownership over Clearwire will provide the resources need to deliver true nationwide 4G service, presumably employing LTE. We hope to take advantage of this nascent LTE build-out to continue and expand the services we provide to non-profit organizations and educational institutions. There is thus a lot to gain through these proposed transfers. There is also risk, should Clearwire under SoftBank not be as conscientious in fostering EBS's public service role as it has been to date.

Like HITN and NACEPF, we believe that it is important for the Commission to recognize what is at stake in this proceeding with respect to the educational and the public service mission of the Educational Broadband Service. The Commission created EBS, and, as HITN and NACEPF wrote, opened new vistas through the evolution of EBS technical regulations. Most importantly, the Commission sets forth our mandate to advance education in its Rules and policies. The Educational Broadband Service is a source of broadband spectrum, to be sure, but it is unique in that it simultaneously provides important public service to education. We look to

² For further details regarding the benefits of the Clearwire relationship, see the comments that the EBS Licensees submitted in this proceeding on the petition to deny filed by the Consortium for Public Education and The Roman Catholic Diocese of Erie, Pennsylvania.

the Commission, in this proceeding and in its ongoing regulation, to protect and enhance the public service nature of EBS.

Respectfully submitted,

EBS LICENSEES

By: /s/ John B. Schwartz Their President

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June 28, 2013

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, John Schwartz, hereby certify that on this 28^h day of June, 2013 a copy of the foregoing Opposition to Petition to Deny was filed electronically with the Commission by using the ECFS system and that a copy of the foregoing was served upon the parties below via electronic mail:

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